

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) In combination:

a base upon which at least one sheet layer can be operatively supported to be cut;

a guide assembly; and

a cutting blade assembly comprising first and second cutting blades and a housing defining a receptacle,

the cutting blade assembly selectively changeable between a) a first state wherein the first cutting blade is in a first operative position and the second cutting blade is in a first inactive position and b) a second state wherein the second cutting blade is in a second operative position and the first cutting blade is in a second inactive position,

the cutting blade assembly cooperating with the guide assembly to be movable guidingly in a cutting path,

the first cutting blade in the first operative position causing cutting of a sheet layer operatively supported on the base as the cutting blade assembly is moved in the cutting path,

the second cutting blade in the second operative position causing cutting of a sheet layer operatively supported on the base as the cutting blade assembly is moved in the cutting path,

wherein the first and second cutting blades are mounted on a blade carrier that is movable guidingly relative to the housing within the receptacle to simultaneously change the first and second cutting blades between their operative and inactive positions,

wherein the blade carrier is guidingly movable around an axis to change the first and second cutting blades between their operative and inactive positions,

wherein the base has a flat surface on which the at least one sheet layer can be operatively supported, the flat support surface resides in a first plane, and the axis is substantially parallel to the first plane,

wherein the receptacle has a first effective diameter as viewed along the axis,

wherein there is an axially extending knob that is connected to the blade carrier and projects from the housing and can be grasped and pivoted around the axis to move the blade carrier and thereby change the cutting blade assembly between the first and second states,

the knob having an effective diameter as viewed along the axis that is substantially less than the first effective diameter,

the cutting blade assembly further comprising a maintaining structure cooperating between the housing and blade carrier that releasably maintains the cutting blade assembly in two different predetermined positions relative to the housing corresponding to the first and second states for the cutting blade assembly.

2. (Original) The combination according to claim 1 wherein the first cutting blade moves from the first operative position into the second inactive position as an incident of the second cutting blade moving from the first inactive position into the second operative position.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)
6. (Withdrawn) The combination according to claim 1 wherein the first and second blades have the same configuration.
7. (Currently amended) The combination according to claim 1 wherein the first and second cutting blades have a different configuration to produce different types of cuts in a sheet layer and there are indicia on the housing that are alignable with the knob to identify the state of the cutting blade assembly.
8. (Withdrawn) The combination according to claim 4 wherein there is an automatically releasable mechanism that maintains the blade carrier in a first position wherein the first cutting blade is in the first operative position.
9. (Withdrawn) The combination according to claim 4 wherein the cutting blade assembly comprises a frame and there is structure cooperating between the frame and blade carrier for releasably maintaining the blade carrier in a first position relative to the frame wherein the first cutting blade is in the first operative position.
10. (Withdrawn) The combination according to claim 9 wherein the structure cooperating between the frame and carrier is capable of releasably maintaining the blade carrier in a second position relative to the frame wherein the second cutting blade is in the second operative position.

11. (Original) The combination according to claim 1 wherein the guide assembly comprises an elongate rail.

12. (Original) The combination according to claim 11 wherein the elongate rail is repositionable relative to the base.

13. (Original) The combination according to claim 12 wherein the elongate rail is repositionable by translation relative to the base.

14. (Original) The combination according to claim 12 wherein the elongate rail is repositionable by guided pivoting movement relative to the base.

15. (Original) The combination according to claim 1 wherein the cutting blade assembly comprises a third cutting blade.

16. (Currently amended) The combination according to claim 4 1 wherein the blade carrier has a body with first and second oppositely facing flat sides and first and second posts projecting from the first flat side and journaled for rotation respectively in the first and second cutting blades.

17. (Original) The combination according to claim 16 wherein the first post projects in a first line, the second post projects in a second line and the first and second lines are substantially parallel to the axis.

18. (Withdrawn) The combination according to claim 1 wherein the cutting blade assembly has indicia to identify which of the first and second cutting blades is in its operative position.

19. (Withdrawn) The combination according to claim 4 wherein a graspable knob is connected to the blade carrier and is repositionable to move the blade carrier around the axis.

20. (Withdrawn) The combination according to claim 4 wherein the cutting blade assembly comprises a frame comprising first and second joinable housing portions and the blade carrier is captive between the first and second housing portions.

21. (Withdrawn) The combination according to claim 20 wherein the guide assembly comprises an elongate rail and the first housing part has a slot through which at least a part of the rail extends, the at least part of the rail sliding guidingly within the slot as the cutting blade assembly is moved in the cutting path.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Cancelled)